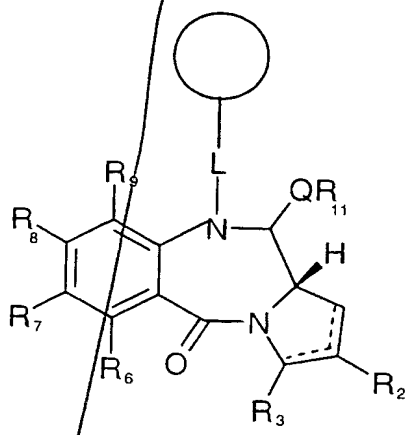
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R_2 and R_3 are independently selected from: H, R, OH, OR, =O, =CH-R, $=CH_2$, CH_2-CO_2R, CH_2-CO_2H, CH_2-SO_2R, O-SO_2R, CO_2R, COR and CN, and there is optionally a double bond between C1 and C2 or C2 and C3;

R_6, R_7, R_8 and R_9 are independently selected from H, R, OH, OR, halo, nitro, amino, Me_3Sn; or R_7 and R_8 together form a group -O-$(CH_2)_p$-O-, where p is 1 or 2;

R_{11} is either H or R;

Q is S, O or NH;

L is a linking group, or a single bond;

O is a solid support;

where R is a lower alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, or an aralkyl group of up to 12 carbon atoms, whereof the alkyl group optionally contains one or more carbon-carbon double or triple bonds, which may form part of a conjugated system, or an aryl group of up to 12 carbon atoms; and is optionally substituted by one or more halo, hydroxy, amino, or nitro groups, and optionally contains one or more hetero atoms, which may form part of, or be, a functional group.

2. A compound according to claim 1, except that one or more of R_2, R_3, R_6, R_7 and R_8 are independently X-Y-A-, where X is selected from -COZ', NHZ, SH, or OH, where Z is either H or an

nitrogen protecting group, Z' is either OH or an acid protecting group, Y is a divalent group such that HY = R, and A is O, S, NH, or a single bond.

3. A compound according to claim 2, wherein it is either R_2 and/or R_8 that is X-Y-A-.

4. A compound according to claim 1, except that one or more of R_2, R_3, R_6, R_7 and R_8 are independently:

$$H-(T)_n-X'-Y-A-$$

where:

X' is CO, NH, S or O,;

Y is a divalent group such that HY = R; SA is O, S, NH or a single bond;

T is a combinatorial unit;

and n is a positive integer.

5. A compound according to claim 4, wherein it is R_2 and/or R_8 that are independently:

$$H-(T)_n-X'-Y-A-.$$

6. A compound according to claim 4 or claim 5, wherein X' is either CO or NH.

7. A compound according to any one of claims 4 to 6, wherein n is from 1 to 16.

8. A compound according to claim 7, wherein n is from 3 to 14.

9. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein R, and HY if Y is present, are independently selected from lower alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, or an alkaryl group of up to 12 carbon atoms, or an aryl group of up to 12 carbon atoms, optionally substituted by one or more halo, hydroxy, amino, or nitro groups.

10. A compound according to claim 9, wherein R, and HY, if Y

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is present, are independently selected from lower alkyl group having 1 to 10 carbon atoms optionally substituted by one or more halo, hydroxy, amino, or nitro groups.

11. A compound according to claim 10, wherein R, and HY, if Y is present, are unsubstituted straight or branched chain alkyl groups, having 1 to 10 carbon atoms.

12. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein Q is O.

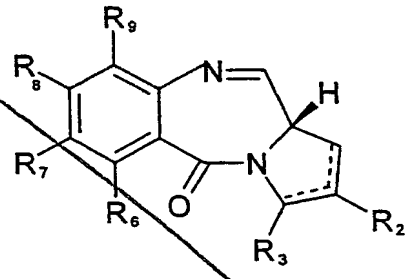
13. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein R_{11} is H.

14. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein R_6 and R_9 are H.

15. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein R_7 is an alkoxy group.

16. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein R_2 and R_3 are H.

17. A compound of formula **II**:



(II)

wherein R_2, R_3, R_6, R_7, R_8 and R_9 are as defined in any one of claims 2 to 8.

18. A compound of formula **II** as defined in claim 17 for use in a method of therapy.

19. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a compound of

formula **II** as defined in claim 17, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

20. The use of a compound of formula **II** as defined in claim 17 in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of a gene-based disease.

21. The use of a compound of formula **II** as defined in claim 17 in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of bacterial, parasitic or viral infections.

22. A collection of compounds all of which are represented by formula **I** as defined in any one of claims 1 to 16.

23. A collection of compounds all of which are represented by formula **II** as defined in claim 17, wherein R_2, R_3, R_6, R_7 and R_8 are as defined in any one of claims 4 to 8, or in any one of claims 9 to 11, 14, 15, or 16 as appendant, directly or indirectly, on any one of claims 4 to 8.

24. A method of screening a collection of compounds of formula **II** as defined in claim 17 to discover biologically active compounds.

25. The use of a compound of formula **II** as defined in claim 17 in a method of target validation

26. The use of a compound of formula **II** as defined in claim 17 in a method of functional genomics.